

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00639 061217Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 OMB-01 AID-05
IGA-02 DOTE-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7277
INFO COMICEDEFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 0639

COMICEDEFOR FOR ADMIRAL BERNSTEIN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, IC, US, NATO
SUBJECT: US GOVERNMENT DECIDES AGAINST CONTRIBUTION TO CIVILIAN
AIR TERMINAL: PRIME MINISTER'S REACTION - CORRECTION

REF: REYKJAVIK 0629

FOLLOWING IS CORRECTION TO SENTENCE THREE, PARA 7, REFTEL
PARA 7 THUS SHOULD READ:

7. I SAID I HOPED ANY SUCH REVIEW WOULD KEEP IN MIND
THAT THE IDF PRESENCE SERVES ICELAND'S SECURITY INTERESTS
AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF OUR NATO
PARTNERS. I ALSO CITED THE ANNUAL COST OF OPERATING THE
BASE AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS IT MAKES TO THE EMPLOYMENT
OF ICELANDERS AND TO ICELAND'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE
EARNINGS. WITH THE THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT SLOW HIM DOWN
I THEN SAID THERE WAS SOME POSSIBILITY THERE MIGHT BE
AN OPENING IN THE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE IN JUNE WHICH
WOULD PERMIT AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
AGUSTSSON ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. PRIME MINISTER
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NODDED AND THEN SAID THIS WOULD BE GOOD AS EVIDENCE OF
OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN ICELAND. MEETING ENDED
WITH HIS COMMENT THAT U.S. OFTEN APPEARS TO PAY MORE
ATTENTIION TO SEEKING MEANS OF COOPERATION WITH
ITS ENEMIES THAN WITH ITS FRIENDS. HE CONTRASTED IN
THIS CONTEXT THE ATTENTION SOME SAY US PAYS TO LEFTIST
GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING "LEFTIST" GOVERNMENT IN ICELAND

IN 1974, WITH OUR REACTION TO REQUEST OF PRIME MINISTER'S
PRO-NATO GOVERNMENT FOR HELP. I ASSURED HIM WE FULLY
APPRECIATED THE SUPPORT HE AND HIS PARTY HAD
ALWAYS GIVEN TO ICELAND'S UNITED STATES AND NATO
CONNECTION AND THAT HIS VIEWS WOULD BE FULLY REPORTED
TO WASHINGTON.
BLAKE

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Message Attributes

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